trade, culture and so on. Specifics were not discussed but in the generality, discussion took place and in furtherance of the discussion, we are working in that direction and cooperation between the two countries is taking more concrete shape than ever before.

SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Madam, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether in his talks at Beijing, the matter which is causing a great concern in this country was discussed, specially, the matter regarding the missiles in Lhasa. It seems there are about 100 missiles which are facing 100 cities in the north of India as per the newspaper reports. I would like to know whether this matter was brought to the notice of the Chinese Government and if so, what did they say about it?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Madam, China has denied this as rumour and said it is not based on truth. I would like to add, however, that all matters concerning our security environment and the security of the country are being constantly monitored and adequate precautions and steps are being taken at all levels.

Amendment of Indian Trade Unions Act

*405. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:†

SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to amend the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 in order to check the multiplicity of trade unions; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA) on behalf of THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR: (a) and (b) A number of amendments are proposed to be made to the Trade Unions Act, 1926 and the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. These include increase in the minimum membership for registration of a trade union, further restriction on the number of office bearers from among non-workmen, provision for collective bargaining agent|council for a unit or an industry for a specified term and increase in the payment of subscription by members of trade unions.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of House by Shri Suresh P chousi.

श्री सरश पचौरी : मैडम, जस्टिस गजेन्द्र गडकर की अध्यक्षता में गठित राष्ट्रीय श्रम आयोग ने 28 अगस्त, 1969 को अपनी रिपोर्ट सरकार को दी थी। इस आयोग ने एक नेशनल इंडस्ट्रियल रिशलेन्ज कमीशन नेशनल एवं स्टेट लैवल पर बनाए जाने की सिफारिश की थी। क्या सरकार ने इस संबंध में कोई निर्णय लिया है। यदि हां, तो उसका विवरण क्या है ? यदि नहीं, तो इस संबंध में वह कब तक निर्णय लेने के बारे में विचार कर रही है ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Labour Courts/Industrial Tribunals

*403. SHRI T. R. BALU:

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether, at the State Labour Ministers' Conference held in the recent past, any decision was taken to double the present strength of Labour Courts|Industrial Tribunals in each State;

(b) if so, what are the names of the States which have since implemented the decision|recommendation in this regard; and

(c) what steps are being proposed to speed up justice in regard to the cases pertaining to the industrial disputes pending in Labour Courts and

Industrial Tribunals all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) The 34th session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in September, 1983 suggested that twice the number of present Industrial Tribunal|Labour Courts would be required all over the country. The suggestions/recommendations of the Conference were communicated to the States|Union Territories for necessary follow-up action. The State Governments|Union Territory Administrations set up Industrial Tribunals|Labour Courts under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act for the State sphere on the basis of the requirements of a particular State or Union Territory. Information in respect of additional Tribunals|Courts set up in the States|Union Territories is not maintained. They have been addressed from time to time to review the position of cases and wherever necessary set up additional Labour Courts|Tribunals. A number of steps have been taken to expedite disposal of cases. These include fixation of time limits for disposal of cases/applications under sections 10, 33(5) and 33-C(2) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, norms for disposal of cases and establishment of additional Courts|Tribunals.

Imposition of Taxes on Haj pilgrims by the Saudi Arabian Government

*406. SHRI M. KADHARSHA. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the All India Haj Committee Convenor has alleged that the Saudi Arabian Government was fleecing the pilgrims by way of Ziarat, landing taxes and exorbitant guide charges;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Saudi Arabia; and

(d) if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) Government has seen press reports to this effect. No details have been receivd.

(c) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*407. [*Transferred to the 24th August*, 1987].

Embracing of Islam by Indian Nationals in Arab Countries

*408. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI:
SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Indian nationals have applied to Indian Diplomatic Missions in Saudi Arbia, Kuwait, UAE, Muscat, Baharain, Iran, Iraq and Libya separately during each of the last three years and so far during the current year for effecting changes in their names in the passports as a result of their embracing Islam from Hinduism and Christianity;

(b) how many out of them are women and childern; and

(c) whether any of these countries gives monetary or other incentives/benefits to people who embrace Islam and if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c) The required information is being collected from the concerned Indian Missions/Posts abroad and it will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.